

This specific drug is effective for millions of Americans with Type 2 diabetes. Type 2 diabetes affects the minority population disproportionately, many of whom cannot afford to pay the higher monopoly prices for this life-saving drug. Access to more affordable generic versions of this drug will undoubtedly serve as a life-saving option.

Mr. Speaker, there is currently a legislative fix in place in the House and Senate version of the pediatric exclusivity bill that would close this loophole and allow generic versions of this diabetes drug to compete with Bristol's Glucophage. As Members commence conferencing on this bill, it is crucial that this language remain intact.

Bristol-Meyers-Squibb is sweeping through key offices on Capitol Hill in an effort to retain its exclusive marketing monopoly on its near 80-year-old profitable drug, Glucophage, which reaps about \$1.8 billion in annual sales.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues working on the pediatric exclusivity bill to keep the current language regarding this important issue in place and not to lose this battle with the drug industry. We have lost it too many times, and given the current circumstances, let us do something for once that will help the consumers of America, who not only have to deal with the weak economy, but also a life-threatening illness such as diabetes.

Let us fight against Bristol-Myers-Squibb and close the Waxman-Hatch loophole.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Mr. ROHRBACHER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. ROHRBACHER addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Rhode Island (Mr. LANGEVIN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. LANGEVIN addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

THE SLIPPERY SLOPE OF HUMAN CLONING

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. PENCE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I come to the well of the House today to call my colleagues' attention to recent developments in biotechnology research.

As I was preparing to return to Washington, D.C. on Sunday morning, I was shocked, along with the overwhelming majority of Members of this body, to learn that a company in Massachusetts was loudly touting its recent decision to clone a human being for medical research.

Despite the overwhelming vote in this Chamber on the subject, this rogue company and perhaps others have

rushed to get ahead of our deliberations, breaking a heretofore established barrier of scientific ethics. I fear, Mr. Speaker, that this action may be the beginning of the end for medical ethics in our country.

No matter what one's position on the issue of human life or abortion or a woman's right to choose, 88 percent of the public today is opposed to the cloning of human beings. We should all be troubled by the fact that scientists are attempting to thwart the political will of the country and the consensus of the medical community in advancing this research ahead of legislation.

When faced with a similar claim of the benefits of what was known as eugenics in his time, the great moralist G.K. Chesterton remarked, "Eugenicists have discovered how to combine the hardening of the heart with the softening of the head."

There is no doubt that we have entered a new area of the debate over this issue, Mr. Speaker. Rather than speaking hypothetically about using some human beings to serve the needs of others, for-profit entities are actively defending this as science on the evening news.

This Faustian bargain is the same sort of dilemma that has faced humanity, and particularly civilized societies, for some time. We in the western tradition have consistently embraced the principle, and no matter how attractive the benefits, it is impermissible to experiment on the helpless. We must guard this important principle.

It is hard for us to grapple with the moral implications of a human life that is only seconds from conception. We cannot look at a cloned embryo in the face to confront this moral chasm. It takes a particularly keen sense of moral seriousness to grasp the implications of these recent developments.

One person who does understand this is my good friend and colleague, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. WELDON), who authored the legislation, along with my friend and colleague, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. STUPAK), who I joined today at a press conference where we stepped in to say that the will of the people of the United States, informed by conscience, ought to lead American ethics in research, and not these amoral biotechnical firms.

Tonight, Mr. Speaker, I come to the floor to urge immediate action to stop the slide towards reductionist thinking on medical technology and the research that makes it possible. Yes, we want to heal the sick and prevent crippling disease. Therapies to make life longer and better are affecting every family. Who would not want more time with their parents and fewer trips to the pediatrician?

It is truly amazing what God has allowed our scientific community to reap in this area. However, it is clear from the debate that these events have triggered across the country that Americans understand the moral implica-

tions of the experimentation that I have described here this evening. Cloning human embryos is a step too far. I urge my colleagues to move quickly to place these practices where they belong: beyond the pale of the law.

Ever since witnessing the disaster that was the eugenics movement, civilized societies have recognized that involuntary experimentation on human beings is utterly indefensible. Let us as elected leaders of the foremost civilized society in the world today reconfirm our commitment to this principle.

Today, Mr. Speaker, the House Chaplain began our proceedings with a prayer in which he mentioned the fabled tower of Babel. This was a tower rising to the skies, the pride of its time, a testament to the human technology of the day, but it eventually destroyed its builders and their very civilization.

I submit tonight that the creation of human life for research or for vanity is such a tower of Babel. It threatens to tear the fabric of our society, our law, and indeed, our very civilization, and it must be stopped.

FAST TRACK

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, many people in the Chamber know about the problems of LTV, one of the third-largest integrated steel-makers in the United States, and its announcement that it may in fact close operations in Cleveland and other places across the country.

Despite the overwhelming passage of a sense of Congress urging the President to keep U.S. antidumping laws off of the negotiating table, the World Trade Organization in Qatar, U.S. Trade Representative Bob Zoellick did just the opposite. We needed help in this country from the USTR, the steel industry needed help from the USTR, LTV needed help from the USTR, but the United States Trade Representative, President Bush's man in Qatar, has remained open to further weakening the rules on trade dumping, further jeopardizing American steel, further threatening American jobs.

Many of us have been concerned about Qatar long before these negotiations began. It is a country that does not allow free elections, it is a country that does not allow freedom of expression, it is a country where women are treated not much differently from the way women have been treated by the Taliban, and it is a country where public worship by non-Muslims is banned.

The message that that meeting of the World Trade Organization sends to people around the world, the trade ministers are meeting in a city and country where public protest is not allowed, where free speech is not allowed, public expression is not allowed, freedom of